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Proctitioner's Docket No. 1348/111

**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

J. Ian Percival

Application No.: 10/709,040

Group No.: 2188

Filed: April 8, 2004

Examiner: Namazi, Mehdi

For: A Method and System for Coherently Caching I/O Devices Across a Network

**Commissioner for Patents** 

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Supplemental Interview Summary

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N THE <u>UNITED STATES PATENT</u> AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Percival Att'y Docket: 1348/111

App. No.: 10/709,040 Art Unit: 2188

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## SUPPLEMENTAL INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Dear Sirs:

Applicant confirms the Interview Summary prepared by Examiner Namazi with regard to a telephone interview on August 16, 2005. The Examiner wanted Applicant to amend a number of the claims before issuing a Notice of Allowance. No prior art was discussed. Applicant complied by e-mailing the Examiner proposed amendments to the claims. Claims 1, 9, 25, 88, 90 and 91 were amended to make them more definite by reciting the cache software. Claims 14 and 21 were amended to more definitely recite the cooperation between the elements of the claims. Claims 31, 43, 102 and 105 were amended to be more specific about where the targeted messages are sent.

Applicant sought to replace the term "driver" with the term "program" so as not to be limited by unintended connotations associated with a "driver." The Examiner initially acquiesced to this claim language change.

On August 18, the Examiner further required a Terminal Disclaimer, which was filed. Applicant's counsel requested the Examiner to correct the amendment to claim 31 for proper correspondence with the antecedent by replacing "invalidate message relates" with "invalidate messages relate." The Examiner also indicated concern that the term "program" presented issues of patentability under §101. Applicant's counsel proposed "A computer program product comprising at least one computer usable medium having a computer readable cache program thereon." The Examiner raised a concern as to whether the specification adequately described a computer readable medium. Applicant's counsel pointed out that the specification was replete with references to software and that those of ordinary skill would recognize that the software would necessarily be on computer readable medium in order to function. Applicant's counsel pointed out the "computer readable medium" was a broad general term necessarily understood

from the application. By the issuance of the Examiner's Amendment, Applicant's claim language was found to be supported by the specification and allowable.

September 13, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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